

Statement of 5th District Ald. Jim Bohl

October 3, 2007

Disappointed Over Redistricting

I was extremely disappointed to hear about the delay in the proposed Milwaukee Police Department redistricting plan. I believe that city residents of the 7th Police District have long been overburdened by a district that is excessively large and unduly busy. I'm aware that the proposed plan, which seeks to create a level playing field between police districts, has seen opposition among downtown interests who have long enjoyed excessive police presence without the numbers to justify it. The taxpaying residents and voters of the 7th Police District, on the other hand, have endured second-class status. It is hoped the redistricting effort could undo that.

My fear is that any undue delay in the implementation of this plan will jeopardize any future that the plan may have. The mayor was able to find money this year to pay for pole security cameras and to extend the NSI one additional month. I urge the mayor to publicly champion the immediate execution of this redistricting plan and for him to put forward the same effort in finding the necessary funding to carry this out.

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